

## OHIO LEADERS HOPE FOR OLD RULE OF PARTY

Joyfully Greet Signs of a "Drift Back" to Former Regime.

### TEST WILL COME ON "STABILITY"

Voters All Over State Stirred by Attack on Initiative and Referendum.

*From a Staff Correspondent of The Tribune*  
Cincinnati, Oct. 29.—The first real test of that hope of politicians, the longed-for "drift back" from Progressive policies, will come at the Ohio polls next Tuesday. The issue, which in the closing days of the campaign has come to overshadow even the prohibition question, is raised in an attack on the initiative and referendum provision of the constitution adopted in 1912. This is openly backed by the liquor interests, and is supported by many who honestly resent the abuse which has been made of the opportunities the initiative offers, but gets its real strength from the big forces which long for the days of the old political regime.

Ohio politics has drifted far from the well ordered, well greased days of the Hanna rule, and those who have survived from those days are longing with their brethren in many other states, for a return of the former things. Nominations are uncertain, elections even more so. Legislation is utterly "undirected," and as likely as not to be of little value to any one in particular. The "leaders" are often without followers, and party councils have become formalities without meaning.

So it has been with almost pathetic joy that these leaders have bailed what they believe is the first sign of a return to something like the conditions they know how to control. They have been talking hopefully among themselves of the popular dislike of primaries, referendum and the like, but they have not dared to test their beliefs at the polls until this year. Now they think they have found their chance, at least in Ohio.

#### "Dry" Stirred to Action.

The attack on the initiative and referendum takes the form of a "stability" amendment to the state constitution providing that after any measure has been twice defeated it cannot be brought up again for six years. So serious is this threat considered by the "dry" that in the last few days their editors have been giving more attention to it than to the prohibition question. Indeed, except for those few who still feel that their daily beer is the main dry issue, while "stability" is calling forth more rancor and more vigor than the drink question ever did. There seems almost a tacit admission that the "dry" are beaten on the main issue, and they are turning to this to give their right to keep that issue open.

The stability plan has many advocates among men whose idea it would be absurd to call ignorant, even President Taft, who is at their head, gets much strength, too, from the general disgust at having to vote twice on the same question on prohibition, when the first vote, with an adverse majority of nearly \$5,000, was so complete an indication of the state's view. And these supporters of the plan declare that the unlimited right to bring measures to a vote again after they have been twice defeated is the best guarantee of stability.

Organized labor is particularly strong in its opposition to the stability plan. The unions were among the most vigorous advocates of the "I. and R." from the first, and they seem to have pre-arranged the first move in a campaign backed by the old-line politicians to deprive them of the power they have won. Even among the farmers, who are in constant fear of single tax leanings in the fiscal system, there is strong opposition. The Ohio farmers, a born politician, beyond most of his calling, and the direct legislation system has given a welcome addition to his favorite recreation.

#### Both Sides Lining Up.

As the old supporters of the "I. and R." are lining up, so are its old opponents, though far less noisily. The "interests" with their political servants and their newspapers are predicting the evils of too much frequent voting on the laws of a state, which may change at any time. In short, they are revamping all the arguments against referendum, but with a saving time-limit clause.

"The organization men will vote against it. The members of the organizations are the slightest intention of supporting it. I am a Democrat and I know that the women were allowed to use the Democratic clubhouses merely as a courtesy. Naturally organization men do not want equal suffrage."

Said another:

"I favor suffrage and will vote for it, but it will be beaten. The women can't beat the political machine."

Another said he favored suffrage be-



Left to right—Mrs. William Astor Chanler, Mme. Charles Le Verrier, Miss Janet Travers, Miss Janet Scudder; also some of the dolls and toys exhibited at the old Knickerbocker Club Building, 319 Fifth Avenue.

### CITY EDITORS FOR VOTES; SEE DEFEAT

#### Almost All Favor Suffrage; Almost All Think It Will Be Beaten.

Of the New York City newspapers, one is opposing woman suffrage, three are neutral and sixteen are supporting it.

The Tribune yesterday polled the city editors of these papers to obtain their personal attitude toward suffrage and their opinions as to its chance of success in this city. Two were opposed. One said he didn't care one way or another. Another said he would give women the vote if they wanted it. Sixteen said they favored it and would vote for it.

In their predictions as to what would be the fate of the woman suffrage amendment in New York City they stood as follows: That it would be beaten, 16; doubtful but inclined to believe it would be beaten, 2; not certain, 2.

Each editor was asked the same questions put to the newspaper editors of the state outside of the greater city by The Tribune in its upstate poll. The questions were: "Do you personally favor or oppose woman suffrage?" and "Will the amendment carry your state?"

In Manhattan the following were polled: "The American," "The Evening Mail," "The Evening Star," "The Evening Sun," "The Evening Telegram," "The Herald," "The Globe," "The Morgan Journal," "The Morning Telegraph," "The Morning World," "The Press," "The Staats Zeitung" (morning), "The Sun," "The Times" and "The Tribune."

The Brooklyn papers polled were "The Citizen," "The Eagle," "The Standard Union" and "The Times."

One city editor gave the following reason for predicting defeat:

"The organization men will vote against it. The members of the organizations are the slightest intention of supporting it. I am a Democrat and I know that the women were allowed to use the Democratic clubhouses merely as a courtesy. Naturally organization men do not want equal suffrage."

Said another:

"I favor suffrage and will vote for it, but it will be beaten. The women can't beat the political machine."

Another said he favored suffrage be-

#### cause it would increase the intelligence of the electorate and the community.

"But I doubt if the amendment will be carried because of the indifference of Tammany and the Tammany leaders."

#### THE WEATHER REPORT

##### Forecasts and Records of the Last Twenty-four Hours.

Washington, Oct. 29.—Pressure is low from the lower lake region, eastward, and in the middle Atlantic states, and there were light rain showers in this area. Rain also continued in Florida, and elsewhere the weather was generally clear.

Notwithstanding a considerable fall in the lower lake region and the eastern seaboard temperatures are still generally warm, and the seasonal average throughout the country, especially to the middle west, is the Mississippi and Missouri valley and the plains states. With the exception of local rains, Sunday in Northeastern New England and far western pressure will prevail during the next forty-eight hours east of the Mississippi River and in the Southwest, with somewhat lower temperatures Sunday in New England and the middle Atlantic states.

Winds for Saturday and Sunday—North and middle Atlantic, moderate and westward.

Wind and rain expected Sunday east of the Great Lakes north and northeast wind.

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